

Principal's report on student achievement 2018

Introduction:

This year has been a very satisfying one in terms of progress towards our strategic goals. Perhaps our greatest achievement collectively was the celebration of our school haka, "Kia mana ake", written by our former Te Reo Māori teacher, Jason Tuhaka. Every whānau performed the haka in turn and then as a school to the delight of parents and whānau. The event enabled our Māori and Pasifika students to show authentic leadership as they taught, coached and inspired our students and staff to learn the words and actions. These students report higher levels of engagement as a result of the school showing its commitment to this valuable element of the expression of Ti Kanga Māori.

Another first was the start of a reciprocal exchange with a school in Nanjing, Xian Ling Intermediate School. This together with our annual attendance of the Hwa Chong Institution Student Leaders' Congress in Singapore has helped to provide almost 30 students and staff with an invaluable educational experience. It also strengthens our commitment to promoting global citizenship and international connections.

We continue to promote student wellbeing with as many experiences of EOTC as possible including the William Pike Challenge, our first Outdoor Education class, Year 9 camp at the Edmund Hillary, Outdoor Pursuit Centre and introducing students to mindfulness practices from the Pause Breathe Smile programme. This will be expanded from one to three Outdoor Education classes and the development of our neighbouring Tāne Forest as a place for quiet reflection.

Next year promises to be very exciting with the celebration of our 10th birthday and start of capital projects related to our 10 Year Property Plan. We will also start a journey into promoting creativity with the assistance of the University of Auckland and develop our holistic reporting system.

Academic achievement:

It is important to note that in the absence of National Standards reporting we have trialled a more holistic method of reporting which will come into effect in 2019. In addition it is difficult to assess our targets as we have used e-asTTle and PAT scores for Year 7 and 8 students instead of Overall Teacher Judgments as in the past. The raw scores tend to be lower than the OTJ's which used evidence of students' work other than test scores. We have also set ourselves on a path of setting targets relating to students' progress which we feel overall is a better way of measuring our impact.

Our English teachers had made surface features a focus for writing and students at first struggled with this aspect of literacy. They also found a restricted time limit for the assessment challenging which led to relatively low achievement data. This is the start of a strategy to target specific aspects of writing by our team and progress data was encouraging and we expect to build on these results in 2019.

In terms of our 2018 achievement targets:

Pasifika achievement was lower in reading and writing but higher in mathematics.

Māori achievement was higher in reading but lower in writing and mathematics.

Boys' writing was below the target and 2018 achievement as discussed above.

Our overall school Mathematics achievement data was below 2018 and we will be using e-asTTle data in 2019 rather than PAT as it provides better diagnostic information for students.

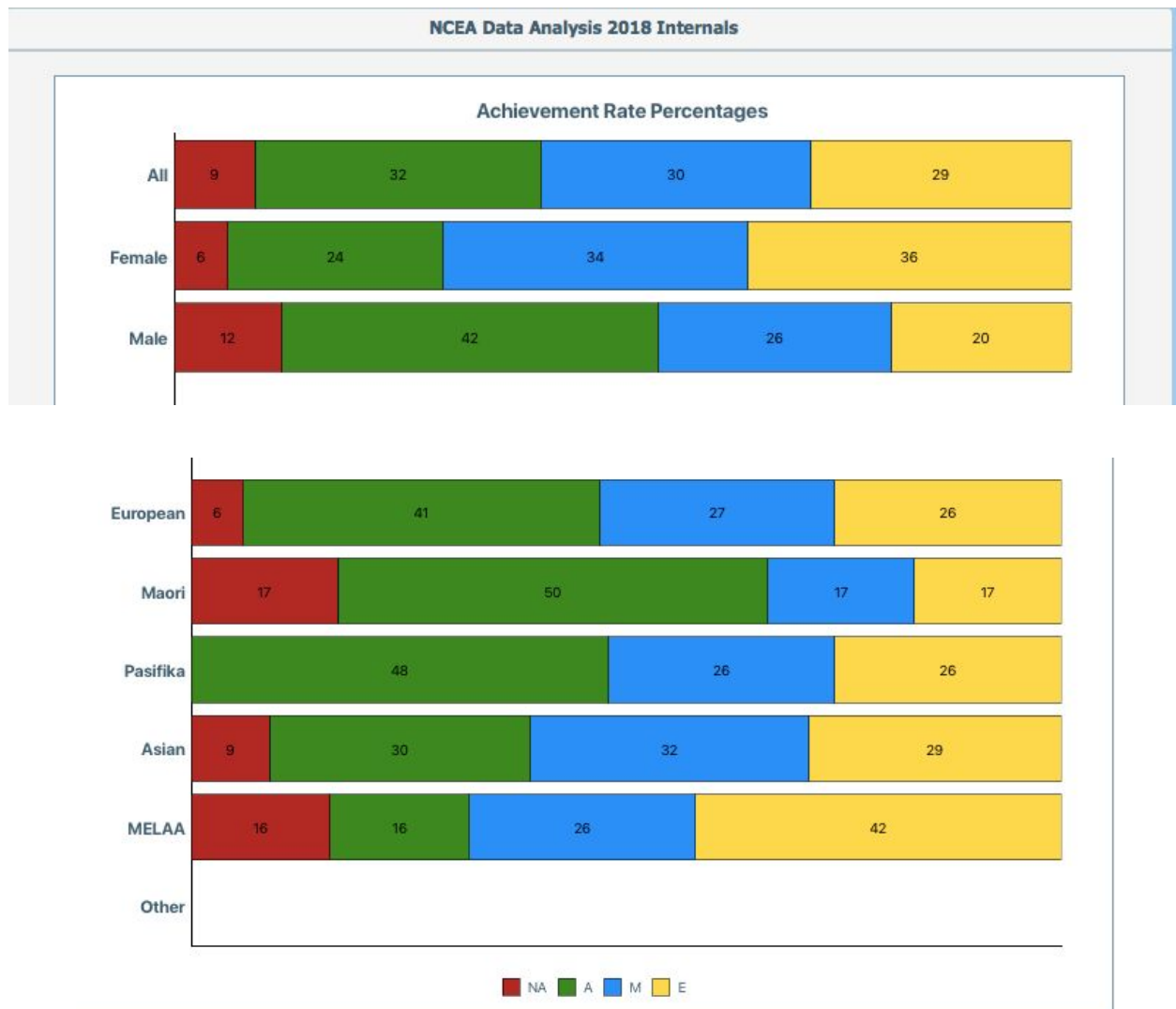
In terms of progress data we were extremely pleased with our Reading data which showed improvement from 2018 in every cohort except Year 10. Progress in Mathematics was not as high however we have set targets which are highly aspirational and may need reconsidering.

2018 Key NCEA data

The stacked bar graphs show the level of achievement (%) for those students who chose to take up an NCEA opportunity. An NCEA Achievement Standard has four levels of achievement: Not Achieved, Achieved, Merit & Excellence.



NCEA opportunities were offered to students in Maths, Science, English, Social Science and Physical Education. A further opportunity was available in Spanish, Business and Mandarin for some students. As shown by the graphs our students did extremely well particularly when we consider they are working at a higher curriculum level than is expected of Year 10 students.



The four cornerstones

Academic competitions:

Through the year students had participated in a wide range of Academic competitions and exams such as: ICAS, Big Science, Mathex, Australian Maths, Otago Maths Junior for Year 9 & 10, the Otago Problem Solving for Years 7 & 8, Australian Chemistry Quiz and Spelling Bee for Years 9 & 10 and the Classroom Spelling Bee for Years 7 & 8. This year students have been entered in a new competition - the Great Kiwi Competition which is run by the University of Canterbury.

All our students had the opportunity to participate in all of the Education Perfect World series competitions. Our students have done us proud achieving a Global 1st place ranking in Humanities and Maths and 2nd place ranking for English and Science. The school has once again gained the global status of overall World Champions for the second time in three years.

Other success came in Sciences with outstanding results from the NIWA Manukau Region Science and Technology Fair with the regional finals held in the MHJC theatre. These successes include four groups who received highly commended awards and three who were placed first in their category.

The EPro8 Challenge is a competition for Years 7/8 and 9/10. Every year over 9000 students from 800 schools from throughout New Zealand take part. Six teams from MHJC competed against intermediate schools around the wider Auckland region with success. The 3-hour challenge involves the use of science, maths, technology and engineering skills to solve specific problems

During Term 4 Eric Pan 7M1 and Joshua Lo 7C1 were invited to attend the Australian Maths Trust Prize Giving. Both students had achieved a High Distinction which is awarded to only 3% of the students in this competition.

The Otago Problem Challenge is a mathematics problem solving competition aimed primarily at children in years 7 and 8 offered to schools throughout New Zealand for the past 25 years. 12 students achieved an Excellence in this difficult challenge.

Tiaki is an environmental initiative of the Manukau Beautification Charitable Trust focused on creating 'Guardians of the Environment'. The purpose is to unite South Auckland communities, schools, environmental organisations, industry leaders, and encourages students to explore innovative green careers through a project-based competition followed by this one-day Expo. The competition involves solving problems using science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and innovation. 10 South Auckland Secondary Schools were involved in showcasing their innovative projects aimed at solving environmental issues. Marcus Canlas, Halle Tang, Katrina Pham, Risha Prasad - Students from 8C2 who participated have all achieved a 1st place in this event

Cultural activities:

There were many highlights in 2018 including:

The hugely successful musical - Back to the 80s which showcased our students' singing, dancing and acting talent. Almost 100 students and staff were involved in what was a highly professional and well rehearsed production. What was perhaps unique was the innovative casting of narrator Jason Tuhaka Senior and the character he describes being played by his son, Jason Tuhaka Junior!

Our first entry into the Tournament of Minds Competition resulted with our team winning the Auckland Regional Competition and competing in the Oceania Competition in Darwin. Hastily arranged funding for this unexpected challenge succeeded in our team managed by Mrs Lal enjoying an unbelievable experience. While the challenge is technologically based there is a heavy emphasis on a performance which means this fits within the cultural cornerstone.

Further success was achieved by our Year 10 Debating team which won the Auckland regional competition with Paul Chan winning best speaker award. And individual public speaking success for Harjot Singh Dharni who won the Auckland Regional Contest and travelled to Darwin for the national competition against Year 13 students! Two of our students also spoke on Anzac Day at the Auckland Museum after winning through as finalists in the "Lest we forget" poetry competition. Aadi Glochha showed his linguistic skills by winning the Hindi speech final and was broadcast live on national radio.

There were many opportunities for students and staff to express and celebrate their cultural identity with Bollywood Dance Groups, Chinese Fan Dance, entries into speech competitions and the incredible spectacle of over 200 students entering the annual cultural dress competition.

Language weeks, Smoke Free rock quest, the Santa Show and wonderful performances by the newly founded school orchestra completed a wonderful year of cultural celebration.

The injection of administrative support for our coordinator was extremely valuable particularly at production time as Gemma Naidoo was able to add her expert dance and choreography skills to the show.

Leadership activities:

2018 has been a magnificent journey for the Leadership Council, which was committed to make a difference within our local community and beyond the shores of New Zealand. The year was filled with various events and activities that exposed our students to identify problems, conduct primary research and surveys and create sustainable solutions, so that the next generation of the council can follow suit.

Term 1: Habitat For Humanity And Auckland City Mission.

The team kick started the year to raise blankets for Victims of Cyclone Gita in Fiji and Samoa. Through social awareness, a collection of 43 blankets were raised and donated to this cause to Habitat for Humanity.

Also, during term 1 the Leadership Council had identified Auckland City Mission as an important organisation in our community, to lend a helping hand. It was researched that over two thousand families are dependant on food parcels from ACM, each week. This statistic is indeed alarming and students wanted to contribute to make a direct contribution. A can drive was implemented and collectively students and staff had donated 600 cans.

On March 21st, New Zealand celebrated Human Rights day by commemorating the 1960 Sharpeville Massacre in South Africa. After attending Race Relations Day at Government House, our team has created a

video that supports the Give Nothing To Racism Campaign, designed a "SAY NO TO racism" Poster. The aim was promote the significance of this day, and more importantly to stand against Racism of any kind.

Term 2: Young Leadership Day and World Vision(40 Hour FAMINE)

Members of the Leadership Council were nominated to attend Young Leaders Day held at Vodafone Center in Manukau. This event comprised of inspirational speakers that ranged from musicians to marathon runners as well as everyday heroes. It was a special delight for the students to meet and participate with a concert from local musician, Vince Harder. However, the essence of this event was about inspiring young minds to become leaders that are resilient and break through stereotypes and barriers. The key speakers had encouraged the audience to follow their dreams, be true to themselves, persevere, and never give up. Despite the challenges they may face, they need to find their inner strength. Young Leaders Day was successful in changing mindsets to an 'I Can Do' attitude.

Members from the Leadership Council, had attended a workshop by World Vision which was aimed at understanding the value and impact the 40 Hour Famine program has on its recipients. This year 40 Hour Famine has supported refugees fleeing South Sudan, who are living in Northern Uganda. In Light of this, the Leadership Council had began promoting the need to participate with this event held during 8-10th June, so that we as a school community, not only raise funds that would be beneficial, but also understand the plight and struggles refugees are subjected too. We are very pleased to mention that 304 students. and 2 staff members had signed up for 40 Hour Famine and have collectively raised a total of \$13 200. This is a record achievement from our school and we are certain that the donations raised will make a huge difference to the refugees in Northern Uganda. Furthermore, MHJC had won a National Silver Award for OUR contributions to this World Vision.

Term 3: Cure Kids and SPCA

During term three, Cure Kids have been committed to support medical professionals, scientists and experts in the field of child health and many breakthroughs have been achieved. Well done MHJC, for your contributions to this much needed organisation.

Also during this term, Leadership through service was exercised with the School outreach class that had collected blankets for the SPCA in Mangere. Students had collected 37 new blankets to be donated to puppies and kittens at the shelter. It was advised that more people seek to adopt a pet from SPCA, to help support provide them with their forever homes.

Term 4: Supporting Children at Kids-First Middlemore Hospital

To conclude our leadership through service for 2018, the Leadership council in conjunction with the School Outreach class has supporting Kids First at Middlemore Hospital, to collect toys to deliver to them this Christmas. Through a bake sale \$530 was raised. The council has purchased 84 new toys and over 105 toys has been donated to Kids First with the hope of lighting up their Christmas with an extra sparkle.

Sport

Sport at Mission Heights Junior College is growing at a rapid pace. We offered 20 sporting codes in 2018. Within these codes we have entered 70 sports teams into the different competitions and we had 420 students competing in inter school competitions.

Aims Games 2018:

The football team made the A grade for the second time and finished 16th out of 64 teams. Our netballers qualified for the A grade for the first time and narrowly lost in the quarter final to finish 7th out of 122 teams. In swimming we had our best results ever with Leo Arrowsmith winning one gold and one silver.

South Eastern Zone (SEZ) Competitions:

Our teams competed in seventeen sporting codes in the SEZ competitions for Year 7 and 8 students:

U/55kg Rugby - 2nd.

Boys' Touch - 4th.

Boys' Basketball - 4th.

Boys' Netball - 2nd in the SEZ tournament and went to Auckland Championships.

Boys' Futsal - Champions for the second time in three years.

Athletics - 52 athletes qualified for the SEZ athletics meeting and four students gained five medals with two gaining a bronze and silver at the Auckland Championships - our best results.

College Sport Competitions:

Girls' netball - 4th in Auckland.

U/15 Boys' basketball - 8th in Auckland.

U/15A Girls' Volleyball team - 2nd in the East Auckland competition

U/15A Boys' Volleyball team - 4th in the East Auckland competition.

Rototuna Sports Exchange:

This was the third exchange we have shared with over 300 students competing in sport and demonstrating the value of sport in our community in our major codes.

Sports Camp

This was the first year that we took 40 students to Totara Springs Sports Camp. It was a huge opportunity for students who missed out on going to AIMS Games. They had lots of fun and competed in 20 different sports. They were unanimously voted the school that displayed the best sportsmanship by all the schools who participated in the week.



Principal